

BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1965



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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and the
Chief Public Health Inspector

1965

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

To: The Chairman and Members
of the Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the health and statistics of the district for the year 1965.

During the year Mr. A. J. Dennis resigned from his post of Chief Public Health Inspector, Engineer and Surveyor. As a result the Council then approved of the separation of this appointment and the setting up of two distinct departments.

Mr. Dennis had been with the Council for many years, first starting as a pupil Sanitary Inspector in 1933 and returning in 1945 as Chief Public Health Inspector, Engineer and Surveyor and Housing Manager.

I wish to record my thanks to him for his help and assistance when I first arrived and since taking up my present post, and wish him well in his new sphere.

I would also like to take this opportunity of welcoming Mr. John Kemp who commenced his appointment as Chief Public Health Inspector in September last.

It is a pleasure to record once again my appreciation of the help and interest shown in the work of the Department by the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee and the willing co-operation of the staff during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

E. WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: J. CHUGG

VICE-CHAIRMAN: R. BOWDEN

COUNCILLORS:

J. E. ANDREW
H. J. BAILEY
G. H. BEARD
MISS E. M. S. BOYD
W. T. C. BUCKINGHAM
MRS C. B. BURGESS
C. CHICHESTER
C. H. COWLER
G. R. HUXTABLE
H. R. LATHAM
S. V. LEWIS
MRS N. M. MEESON
A. MOON

C. A. PASSMORE
W. W. NOTT
W. PENGELLY
F. J. RICE
H. B. RICHARDS
F. J. RIDD-JONES
M. A. J. SEXON
G. H. STADDON
W. H. TANNER
REV B. M. TINSLEY
C. W. TRIGGER
R. J. S. WELCH
C. G. YEO
W. H. YEO

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

E. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

A. J. Dennis, M.A.P.H.I. (to 30th June, 1965)
J. Kemp, M.A.P.H.I. (from 6th September, 1965)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:

F. Whittaker, M.A.P.H.I.
P. Warren-Tibbetts, M.A.P.H.I. (to 30th September, 1965)

MEAT INSPECTOR:

M.P. Davis, A.R.S.H. (from 12th July, 1965)

CLERKS:

Mrs J. Kelly (to 30th June, 1965)
Miss M. Cork (to 30th June, 1965)
Mrs Y. Mellows (from 1st July, 1965)

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	129,346
Estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	27,090
Population at 1961 census	...	...	...	...	...	25,069
Inhabitated houses	...	...	...	...	...	8,715
Number of Council owned houses	...	...	...	...	...	691
Density of persons per house	...	...	...	...	...	3.2
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£ 828,610
Estimated Product of 1d Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£ 3234 13s.2d.
Area Comparability Factors:	...	...	Births	...	...	1.22
			Deaths	...	...	0.82

VITAL STATISTICS

Live births	...	...	...	...	...	405
Live births (rate per 1000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	14.94
Live births (rate per 1000 corrected)	...	...	...	...	...	18.23
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	7.9
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	11
Stillbirths rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	26.44
Total live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	416
Infant deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	2
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	4.93
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	NIL
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	NIL
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	NIL
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	NIL
Peri-natal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths)	...	...	...	...	...	31.25
Maternal mortality (including abortion)	...	...	...	...	...	NIL
Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	346
Death rate per 1000 population	...	...	...	...	...	12.77
Death rate per 1000 population corrected	...	...	...	...	...	10.37

POPULATION

The population of the rural district increased by 420 to 27,090 during the year.

Births exceeded deaths by 59; illegitimate births increased from 24 to 32 (this is 7.9% of total live births).

Out of 405 live births during the year there were 2 infant deaths; this gives an infant mortality rate of 4.93 per 1,000 births. This is the lowest figure yet recorded for the rural district.

POPULATION TRENDS

Year:	Population:		Live Births:		Deaths:
1951 census	23,150	...	324	...	314
1952	23,030	...	342	...	322
1953	23,360	...	318	...	257
1954	23,410	...	346	...	296
1955	23,642	...	334	...	316
1956	24,070	...	343	...	302
1957	24,010	...	369	...	300
1958	24,370	...	362	...	276
1959	24,370	...	356	...	294
1960	25,050	...	365	...	272
1961 census	25,290	...	338	...	299
1962	25,580	...	353	...	336
1963	26,020	...	434	...	329
1964	26,670	...	428	...	325
1965	27,090	...	405	...	346

BIRTHS

Live Births:	Males:		Females:		Total:
Legitimate	205	...	163	...	373
Illegitimate	17	...	15	...	32
	<u>222</u>		<u>183</u>		<u>405</u>

Stillbirths:

Legitimate	3	...	4	...	7
Illegitimate	4	...	-	...	4
	<u>7</u>		<u>4</u>		<u>11</u>

DEATHS

During the year there were 346 deaths (187 males and 159 females) as compared with 325 in the previous year.

The following table gives the causes of deaths:-

			Male	Female
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	..	..	1	-
" - Other	..	..	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	..	..	3	1
- Lung, Bronchus	..	..	12	-
- Breast	..	..	-	4
- Uterus	..	..	-	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	..	..	20	15
Leukaemia, Alkukaemia	..	..	-	3
Diabetes	..	..	1	1
Vascular Lesions	..	..	22	32
Coronary Disease, Angina	..	..	48	26
Hypertensions with Heart Disease	..	..	4	2
Other Heart Disease	..	..	29	34
Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	7	5
Pneumonia	..	..	3	3
Bronchitis	..	..	11	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..	..	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	3	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	3	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	3	-
Congenital Malformations	..	..	1	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	..	..	7	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	1	2
All Other Accidents	..	..	6	1
Suicide	..	..	1	1

NEO-NATAL DEATHS

This represents the number of deaths occurring in infants under the age of 4 weeks:-

			Males:	Females:	Total:
Legitimate	-	-	Nil
Illegitimate	-	-	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

During the year 2 infants (1 male and 1 female) died under the age of one year, giving an infant mortality rate of 4.67:

			Males:	Females:	Total:
Legitimate	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	-	-	0

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

	M	F	Total		M	F	Total
Under 4 weeks	-	-	0	35 to 44 years	5	2	7
4 weeks to 1 year	1	1	2	45 to 54 years	6	9	15
1 to 4 years	-	3	3	55 to 64 years	25	19	44
5 to 14 years	2	-	2	65 to 74 years	63	33	96
15 to 24 years	3	1	4	75 +	81	91	172
25 to 34 years	1	-	1				

CANCER DEATHS

There were 58 deaths from cancer during the year; 4 less than in 1964.

				Males:	Females:	Total:
Stomach	...	...	...	3	1	4
Lung & Bronchus		...	...	12	-	12
Breast	...	...	...	-	4	4
Uterus	...	...	...	-	3	3
Other	...	...	...	20	15	35
				35	23	58

DEATHS FROM LUNG CANCER

	M	F		M	F
1952	5	1	1959	7	2
1953	5	2	1960	6	2
1954	5	1	1961	9	2
1955	5	-	1962	10	-
1956	7	-	1963	11	2
1957	8	2	1964	12	-
1958	9	2	1965	12	-

The total number of cancer deaths since 1952 are shown in the following table:-

Year	Total No. of Deaths	Cancer Deaths:		
		M.	F.	Total
1952	322	26	29	55
1953	257	18	27	45
1954	296	20	30	50
1955	316	21	26	47
1956	302	25	30	55
1957	300	31	26	57
1958	276	21	22	43
1959	294	24	28	52
1960	272	20	21	41
1961	299	24	27	51
1962	336	34	37	71
1963	329	34	28	62
1964	325	35	27	62
1965	346	35	23	58

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A total of 153 infectious disease notifications were received during the year. The majority of these (126) were measles cases - the infection occurring in the spring and continuing into the late summer and early autumn.

There were five cases of lung tuberculosis - one of these being an inward transfer from another area. One case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was reported.

Ten cases of sonne dysentery notifications were received from Braunton, Woolacombe and Mortehead areas. This infection occurred in children of primary school age and infants under five years. The prompt exclusion of the affected children from the schools prevented the further spread of this troublesome complaint.

One young infant was notified as having food poisoning, the causative organism isolated being salmonella typhimurium. This however was not a ~~live~~ ^{True} case of food poisoning as it was later found that salmonella infection was present amongst the calves on the farm where the child lived.

During the year salmonella infection amongst calves was reported on six farms in the rural district. These reports were received from the Divisional Veterinary Officer, Animal Health Section of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Exeter. The infection occurred mainly on farms where intensive calf rearing was undertaken and the animals were bought in markets locally in this county and in neighbouring counties. A few of the affected farms were also engaged in milk production and the spread of the infection from the calves to the dairy herd was a possibility of which the farmer was informed. On one farm salmonella infection from calves did affect at least one animal in a dairy herd. The milk from this herd was normally sent away for pasteurisation, but some was sold to a neighbouring milk producer/retailer and as a result salmonella typhimurium infection was reported in a mother and a young child who were supplied by the producer/retailer. The salmonella organism isolated from both mother and child and affected dairy cow was of the same phage type.

During the year out of approximately 150 milk samples taken from farms in the rural area, four were positive on culture for Brucella Abortus organisms. The affected farms were visited and the sale of milk to the general public was discontinued until the offending animal or animals were isolated and disposed of.

No instances of brucellosis, or undulant fever as it is known in humans was reported during the year. This is rather surprising, particularly as over 50% of the milk sold in the area is non-pasteurised i.e. non-heat treated. At present the disease is not notifiable, but the Ministry of Health are reviewing the list of notifiable diseases covered by the Public Health Act of 1936 and it has been recommended that undulant fever be now included.

As already stated, no cases were reported during the year, but it is probable that infection in humans does occur, but ~~is~~ ^{may be} missed owing to difficulty of diagnosis.

No cases of diphtheria or infantile paralysis were reported during the year.

The following table gives particulars of the infectious diseases notified during the year:-

Measles	...	...	...	126
Sonic Dysentery	...	...	...	10
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	7
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	5
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	1
Acute Incephalitis (infective)	...	...	...	1

Five cases of lung tuberculosis and one non-pulmonary notified in accordance with the regulations were as follows:-

Age Group:	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male:	Female:	Male:	Female:
1 - 5	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	1	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	1	1	-
45 - 54	1	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	-
65 +	1	-	-	-

LUNG TUBERCULOSIS - DISTRIBUTION OF CASES

Braunton	...	2	Bishops Tawton	1
Georgeham	...	2	Heanton Punchardon	1

INCIDENCE OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS SINCE 1951

Year	No. of Cases of Pulm.T.B.	Case Rate per 1,000 Population	No. of Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1951	23	0.99	7	0.30
1952	21	0.91	6	0.26
1953	24	1.03	3	0.12
1954	11	0.47	-	-
1955	4	0.17	-	-
1956	7	0.29	-	-
1957	5	0.20	1	0.04
1958	5	0.20	1	0.04
1959	4	0.16	1	0.04
1960	6	0.23	-	-
1961	5	0.20	1	0.04
1962	5	0.23	-	-
1963	2	0.075	-	-
1964	2	0.075	-	-
1965	5	0.185	1	0.04

The following table shows the number of cases on the Rural District Tuberculosis Register on 1st January and 31st December:-

1965	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			TOTAL
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
1st January	50	31	81	8	13	21	102
31st December	51	31	82	8	13	21	103

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

TUBERCULOSIS

All Tuberculosis cases are now treated at Hawkmoor Hospital.

MATERNITY CASES

At the North Devon Infirmary there is a ward of 14 beds with a fully qualified staff available for cases of doubt or difficulty and there are five beds available for special care babies.

A general practitioners' maternity unit of 13 beds is situate at Highfield, Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

At Bicclescombe Hospital, Ilfracombe there are 10 beds for maternity and ante-natal patients.

ISOLATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There is an infectious diseases section at the Kingsley Hospital at Bideford, which serves Barnstaple as well as other local authorities in North Devon. There are 12 beds for infectious diseases and 15 convalescent beds.

SMALLPOX

The smallpox hospitals, to which cases of smallpox would now be sent, are (i) Liskeard and (ii) Lee Mill.

GENERAL

The North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, which has a total of 113 beds, serves the area and provides modern medical and surgical treatment for the residents of the district.

Two wards, with a total of 33 beds, at the Alexandra Hospital, Barnstaple serve as an annexe to the North Devon Infirmary, catering for post-operative and recovery patients.

There are 92 beds for the chronic sick at the Alexandra Hospital.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory is situate at Church Lane, Heavitree, Exeter. It is installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all doctors.

Bacteriological examinations of drinking water, milk and ice-cream are also carried out.

There is a Pathological Laboratory at 75 Boutport Street, Barnstaple with a full-time pathologist and technical staff catering for the needs of the North Devon area.

The blood bank is also at this local laboratory.

HOUSING

During the year one Closing Order and five Demolition Orders were made by the Council and five families from unfit houses, which were the subject of statutory orders, were rehoused in Council owned accommodation.

Twenty-five Council dwellings were erected during the year and a total of forty-four (seventeen at Heanton Punchardon and twenty-seven at Bickington) are under construction. Plans are in course of preparation for one hundred and thirty-eight dwellings at Wrafton village.

Applications for Council accommodation totalled 248 on 31st December, 1965 (as compared with 302 in December, 1964).

During the year the following grants were approved for the improvement of old properties:-

	Owner/Occupied	Tenanted	Total
Standard	27	21	48
Discretionary	8	11	19

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

V. D. Clinic.

This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.

Sessions	Females	Males
Monday	4.0 p.m.	5.15 p.m.
Thursday	4.30 p.m.	5.45 p.m.

Chest Clinic.

The Chest Clinic is held at the North Devon Infirmary Glossop Annexe.
Sessions: Tuesday 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.) Clinic & X-Ray
Wednesday 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.) Examinations.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Under Section 27 of the National Health Act, 1945, the local health authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves Barnstaple Borough and the district around, and the headquarters are in Commercial Road, Barnstaple. The staff consists of three paid members (full-time) 20 men volunteers and 14 volunteer nurses. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available upon application to the hospital by the doctor concerned, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when the ambulance is not necessary.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOMES

There are nine District Nurses in the area, all of whom act as Midwives

IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION

Protective immunization and vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Smallpox and Poliomyelitis, are undertaken by the General Practitioners and at the Infant Welfare and School Clinics. There are four Infant Welfare Clinics organised by the Devon County Health Authority within the district. These are held as follows:-

Fremington - Parish Hall:	...	...	2nd & 4th Wednesday afternoons.
Braunton - Parish Hall:	...	...	Thursday afternoons.
Combe Martin - Baptist Chapel Rooms	...	...	2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoons.
Woolacombe - Methodist Hall:	...	...	2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1953. SECTION 47

During the year no elderly person was removed compulsorily under this Act from his or her home to a County Welfare Establishment or hospital.

Owing to the shortage of accommodation for the elderly at the Welfare Homes, those persons, who because of their age and inability to fend for themselves and who are anxious to get into a Welfare Home voluntarily may have to wait some weeks before being admitted.

The Home Help Service is always available to provide assistance to the elderly to remain in their own homes.

MEALS ON WHEELS

There is no "Meals on Wheels" service in operation in the Rural District.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my first Annual Report on the activities of the Public Health Department during 1965.

The year under review saw major changes, and the decision to create a separate Public Health Department will surely make for more efficiency in the wide spheres of public health work.

You will realise that as I was only with this authority for the last four months of 1965 I cannot take credit for the majority of the material in the report.

I have always regarded the Annual Report as the only satisfactory means of publicizing the work undertaken by Public Health Inspectors and therefore I have taken the opportunity of revising the layout and including more detailed information, which I hope will be of interest and meet with your approval.

The important public health matters of sewerage and sewage disposal have been included, together with details of public conveniences, and I have to thank the Surveyor for the information provided.

The departure of Mr A. J. Dennis, my own arrival, the appointment of Mr M. P. Davis as Meat Inspector and the resignation of Mr P. Warren Tibbetts, together with the reorganisation, all had an effect upon the continuity of the work of the Department.

I should like to record my appreciation of the co-operative attitude shown to me by the members of the Council and the Public Health Committee and particularly the helpful and friendly assistance of Mr Chugg, Dr Williams and Mrs Mellows, who was herself new to public health work and now ably deals with the bulk of the clerical work of the Department single handed.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN KEMP

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Annual Report

OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER

PUBLIC SUPPLIES

The North Devon Water Board provides a supply of chlorinated mains water to all villages in the Rural District with the exception of Challacombe.

The mains water is distributed to almost all areas from the works at Bratton Fleming.

The Brendon area is served by a recently completed mains supply from the Lynton water works.

The main reservoir at Wistlandpound has a capacity of 341,000,000 gallons.

The Bratton Fleming water works distribute approximately 2,000,000 gallons per day.

Water mains were extended in the districts of Umberleigh, Roborough and Shirwell and also to serve new housing development which was proceeding in various areas.

During 1965 mains water was provided for a further 425 dwellings and 21 farms in the rural area.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

The only major private water supply is at Saunton and this serves approximately thirty-five properties.

Throughout the district there are still numerous isolated dwellings and farms which rely on their own supplies which are usually drawn from wells and springs.

During December a survey was undertaken of private supplies serving properties in the area south of Coddon Hill in the parishes of Bishops Tawton and Swimbridge. The sources of supply were subsequently checked and sampled and the information supplied for use in connection with the projected mains supply for the area where the existing supplies are generally inadequate, as well as unsatisfactory bacteriologically.

SAMPLING

The North Devon Water Board arrange for the final water from the Bratton Fleming works to be submitted for bacteriological examination each week during the year. In addition regular samples of mains water are taken throughout the district.

The following summary shows the results of all water samples taken for bacteriological examination during the year in the respective parishes.

PARISH	Public Supply (Taken by N.D.W.B.)		Private Supplies (Taken by B.R.D.C.)	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Arlington	1	-	-	3
Berrynarbor	12	-	-	-
Bishops Tawton	-	-	1	4
Bittadon	-	-	-	2
Bratton Flemming	100	2	1	-
Braunton	34	-	-	4
Brendon	17	1	1	-
Challacombe	-	-	2	1
Combe Martin	22	2	-	1
Countisbury	-	-	-	1
Fremington	1	-	-	-
Georgeham	23	-	-	-
Heanton Punchardon	2	-	-	1
High Bray	1	-	2	-
Instow	10	-	-	-
Landkey	1	-	-	-
Loxhore	2	1	-	-
Martinhoe	-	-	-	2
Marwood	6	-	-	-
Mortehoe	45	-	-	-
Parracombe	8	-	-	-
Pilton West	-	-	-	2
Shirwell	11	-	-	2
Swimbridge	-	-	-	3
Tawstock	-	-	1	2
West Down	11	-	-	-
Westleigh	-	-	1	-
	307	6	9	28

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

SEWERAGE

The Council owns and operates sewerage systems in the following areas:-

Braunton

During 1965 the Wrafton extension was carried out at a cost of approximately £12,000. The work was designed and supervised by the Council's own staff.

Combe Martin.

The village drains to a sea outfall through which untreated sewage is discharged into the sea below low tide level.

The system works entirely by gravity, except for a few properties at Newberry Beach where an ejector lifts the sewage to the gravity sewers.

The outfall functions very efficiently and no complaints of nuisance have been received.

The system has no equipment for measuring flows and the volume discharged is therefore unknown.

Georgeham and Croyde.

These villages drain by gravity sewers to a pumping station at Croyde Bay where the sewage is passed through macerating pumps and thence into the sea via an outfall off Buggy Point.

It became evident during the year that the system was overloaded and in order to assess the extent of the problem hour counters were installed on the pumps in July since which time daily readings have been taken and a careful watch maintained. Owing to the very wet summer of 1965 the results have been inconclusive and further investigations will be made during the summer of 1966 in order to ascertain the flow during the holiday season.

Approximate daily flow pumped during the holiday season is 100,000 gallons and during heavy rain up to 300,000 gallons.

Mortehoe and Woolacombe.

Woolacombe has main drainage facilities. The sewage is passed via a treatment works into a sea outfall.

The last 100 feet of the outfall is secured to a steel cradle and during the year it became necessary to carry out extensive repairs to the supports where the steel had begun to disintegrate.

At North Morte the sewage is discharged via a septic tank into a sea outfall at Rockham Beach. This outfall is also in very poor condition and unsuccessful efforts were made during the summer by a local contractor to clear severe blockages of stone and debris. Further efforts will be made in 1966.

The village of Mortehoe is sewered and sewage is pumped from Castle Rock pumping station into the Woolacombe system.

Parracombe.

The village has a main drainage system constructed in 1960. The works give full biological treatment to the sewage and consistently good analyses of the effluent are obtained.

It is regrettable that a number of property owners have not availed themselves of the facilities, despite attempts by persuasion, by connecting to the system.

Taw Sewerage (South Bank)

This system serves the built-up areas of Holo Manor, Oakland Park, Bickington, Fremington, Yelland, Instow and that part of the Borough of Barnstaple lying west of the River Taw. The bulk of the sewage is pumped to the treatment works at Yelland via pumping stations at Anchor Wood, Oakland Park, Fremington, Instow "A" (on the front) and Instow "B" (adjoining the Army Depot).

The pumps at Fremington can pass 75,000 gallons per hour. During dry weather the pumps operate for three hours per day, but in storm weather up to twelve to fifteen hours.

Large volumes of surface water enter the sewers via the Magdala branch serving Bickington village. The whole of the main road through the village drains to the foul sewers. A storm overflow at Magdala reduced the volume to be dealt with by the pumps, but now that new housing development has taken place in the vicinity frequent complaints are received about the fouling of the stream into which the Magdala storm water overflow discharges.

The Council's Surveyor has been in contact with the County Council with a view to the surface water from Bickington being removed from the foul sewers when the proposed road improvements are carried out. Whether or not the Magdala overflow will still be necessary after this is done will have to be decided in the light of experience.

Saunton.

This is an old sewerage system which continues to function without apparent nuisance. Sewage gravitates to a large septic tank and the effluent to a series of trenches in the sand dunes.

Westleigh.

The village is served by combined sewers which discharge foul sewage and surface water directly into the River Torridge via an outfall. No treatment is provided.

SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

Atherington.

Samples of the effluent had been consistently bad since the construction of the works and in order to improve the quality a final settlement tank has been added.

A sample of the effluent was taken by the River Authority on 30th September and the analysis indicated that it was well within the required standards viz:-

5 days B.O.D. 2.5 p.p.m.	(maximum permissible 20 p.p.m.)
Suspended solids 8 p.p.m.	(maximum permissible 30 p.p.m.)

Berrynarbor.

A small sewage treatment works serves the properties at the southern end of the village. The works are not efficient and would be abandoned in the event of a new sewerage scheme being provided for Berrynarbor.

Bratton Fleming.

As a result of consistently poor effluent analyses, changes in the method of operating the works were introduced; additional sludge drying capacity provided and land treatment installed for the final effluent.

The measures appear to have had the desired effect. The River Authority analysis of a sample taken on 29th September was:-

5 days B.O.D. 13 p.p.m. (maximum permissible 20 p.p.m.)
Suspended Solids 16 p.p.m. (maximum permissible 30 p.p.m.)

Braunton.

The treatment works constructed in 1964 were designed to treat 280,000 gallons per day dry weather flow. The average dry weather flow is approximately 150,000 gallons which indicates a considerable reserve capacity. Final effluent is discharged into the Pill.

Investigations have continued into the possible causes of the poor standard of the effluent, without any positive conclusions having been reached. There does not appear to be any single main reason, but rather a combination of a number of factors. At present there is no standard laid down for the quality of effluent, but the River Authority will no doubt bring pressure to bear at some future date to persuade the Council to instal biological treatment.

Goodleigh.

The village system includes a treatment works which incorporates a form of septic tank. In spite of efficient site control the effluent continued to be unsatisfactory.

The River Authority analysis of a sample taken on 2nd June was:-

5 days B.O.D. 39 p.p.m. (maximum permissible 20 p.p.m.)
Suspended solids 56 p.p.m. (maximum permissible 30 p.p.m.)

The installation of an upward flow filter in the final settlement tank has been considered, but a decision will not be made until the results of the improvements at Knowle sewage works (where similar problems have been encountered) are known.

Knowle.

The village of Knowle drains to a small pre-war sewage works. As a result of consistently poor effluent quality the question of remedial measures was considered during the year. The idea of constructing a sewer to connect Knowle into the Braunton system was deferred by the Council. Meanwhile the Surveyor was authorised to carry out alterations to the works at an estimated cost of £500. The proposals involve converting the two existing septic tanks into continuous sedimentation tanks and the existing disused storm tank into a third sedimentation tank; provision of additional sludge drying beds and the installation of an upward flow filter in the final settlement tank.

Work commenced at the end of the year and good progress was made despite bad weather. The scheme is being carried out by the Council's own outside staff.

West Down.

Gross pollution of the stream receiving the final effluent occurs as a result of the storm overflow having been constructed to pass through the sludge drying beds and thence into the effluent sewer. There has also been a shortage of sludge drying capacity.

A scheme has been prepared which will provide for the re-routing of the storm overflow and for two additional drying beds at an estimated cost of £2.50. This work will be carried out in 1966 by direct labour.

Woolacombe.

Sewage from Woolacombe and part of Mortehee is treated at an underground sewage works on the sea front at Woolacombe.

Sewage is settled in upward flow sedimentation tanks and the settled liquor is held in a storage tank, to be released at the appropriate state of the tide.

Investigations were commenced during the summer in order to ascertain the extent of loading which occurs during the holiday season but owing to the very wet summer no conclusions were possible. Investigations will proceed next year, weather permitting.

Yelland.

The works provide for primary settlement only, the settled sewage being discharged to the estuary near the East Yelland Power Station.

During the year the under drainage of two of the six sludge drying beds was renewed, which has facilitated a more rapid drying of sludge.

The works were designed to treat a dry weather flow of 369,000 gallons and at present is below design loading by 69,000 gallons per day.

During severe storm times flows in excess of 2½ million gallons per day have been recorded.

NEW SEWERAGE SCHEMES

Bishops Tawton, Landkey and Swimbridge.

The design of this scheme by the Council's Consulting Engineers (Messrs Lemon & Blizard) is well advanced and tenders should be available during the first half of next year.

The new scheme will overcome the public health nuisances caused by the existing arrangements and also enable modernisation of older properties to proceed, particularly in Landkey.

The existing arrangements are, briefly:-

Bishops Tawton.

Approximately fifty properties in the old part of the village drain to a septic tank near the church and the overflow discharges into the Venn stream.

One group of approximately ten properties in Easter Street discharge into a septic tank, thence into the Venn stream, and another group of approximately five properties discharge directly into the stream without any intervening tank.

The new housing estate at Mount Pleasant is served by a full treatment works, the effluent from which discharges to the Venn stream just above the railway bridge.

A group of cottages near the hump-back bridge at the bottom of Easter Street discharges foul effluent into the field adjoining the stream from which it percolates over the ground into the stream.

The remainder of the properties in the village have individual septic tanks or cesspools.

Landkey.

The majority of the properties in the village have no waterborne drainage facilities and main drainage is urgently required in order that modernisation can proceed.

The Council have two old and inefficient systems serving small groups of properties.

One, situate opposite the Ring of Bells consisting of a septic tank and small filter serves a total of just over thirty dwellings, including the Council estate.

The second consists of a very small tank in the field at the rear of Watts' yard which serves approximately twelve properties. It is impossible in either case to maintain any standard of effluent quality prior to discharge into the stream.

Swimbridge.

The whole of the village is sewerd and drains to a septic tank close to the river. Little difficulty is experienced in maintenance and the new scheme provides only for dispensing with the septic tank by the installation of a pumping station.

Milltown and Muddiford.

Preparatory work on this scheme was carried out during the year and subject to Ministry and other approvals should be ready for tender during 1966.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Council own and maintain twelve public conveniences.

Braunton (Parish Hall)

These were completely modernized during the year. There have been several cases of vandalism, particularly after Friday night dances in the Parish Hall, which have resulted in damage to the section for males.

Combe Martin (Seaside, Skirhead, Hollands Park & Kiln Car Park).

Towards the end of the year plans were prepared for the enlargement of the Kiln Car Park conveniences which had become inadequate for the heavy

usage during the summer, particularly as the car park had been enlarged.

During the year the Council took over responsibility for the maintenance of the Hollands Park conveniences.

Croyde.

These conveniences are extensively used during the summer months and are no longer adequate to meet the demand. The question of providing additional facilities in the locality is under consideration.

Georgeham.

A small block of conveniences, adequate at the time of construction a few years ago, is no longer large enough for the very heavy usage which now occurs. Alternative sites are being investigated.

Instow.

As in the case of all public conveniences on the coast, these are extensively used during the holiday season. Outbreaks of vandalism occur from time to time and there is more general abuse of these conveniences than of any other maintained by the Council.

Woolacombe (Red Barn and Beach)

The Beach conveniences are now far too small to meet the demands of summer visitors and plans are being prepared for complete reconstruction.

Woolacombe (Combesgate and Marine Drive).

A new block of conveniences was erected on the Marine Drive car park during the year. No water supply is available on the site and an Elsan chemical disposal system has been installed.

Complaints concerning the smell of the chemical were received, but it is hoped this problem can be overcome in time for the 1966 season.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

COLLECTION

Two vehicles, one large and one small, together with the necessary crews, were added to the fleet early in the year.

Rounds were altered and it was possible to cope more satisfactorily with the heavy demands made upon the service during the summer season.

The holiday areas of Instow, Croyde, Georgeham, Woolacombe, Mortehoe, Berryarbor and Combe Martin had two collections each week during the summer from hotels, guesthouses, certain caravan sites and other business premises.

The additional vehicles and men made it possible for a weekly collection to be arranged throughout the remainder of the district, with the exception of a few small isolated villages and hamlets where a fortnightly collection was made.

Certain catering establishments requested additional collections and where it was possible for these to be carried out a charge was made for each collection.

Special collections, for which a charge is made, are carried out at the Army Camps at Fremington and Instow and there is a yearly contract with the Royal Air Force Station at Chivenor. The Chivenor establishment has a daily collection from the messes, twice weekly from the lines, certain offices and stores, clubs, shops, sick quarters and workshops and weekly from the remainder of the stores, offices, sections, hangers, seven boiler houses and the married quarters.

Details of the refuse vehicles in use, all of which are powered with diesel engines, are as follows:-

*	1963	Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic	...	50 cu.yd. capacity
+	1965	Bedford / Eagle Crushload	...	35 cu.yd. capacity
x	1961	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore & Aft Tipper		14 cu.yd. capacity
x	1960	Shelvoke and Drewry Fore & Aft Tipper		12 cu.yd. capacity
	1958	Bedford / Eagle Side Loader	...	10 cu.yd. capacity
R	1955	Bedford / Eagle Side Loader	...	10 cu.yd. capacity
	1965	Ford / Homalloy Rear Loader	...	5 cu.yd. capacity
	1962	Ford / Eagle Side Loader	...	3 cu.yd. capacity

* Fitted with hydraulic ram for compression.

+ Fitted with hydraulic crushing and compression rams.

x Fitted with hydraulic compression plate.

R Reserve vehicle

The labour force of the Public Health Department totals twenty-one and comprises a foreman, seven driver/loaders, twelve collectors and a tractor operator.

LITTER

During the summer months one small vehicle was in use full-time on the collection of litter from the many receptacles that have been provided throughout the area. Where it was deemed necessary containers were emptied two or three times each week.

Contributions were made towards the costs involved in respect of the collection of litter from sites within the Exmoor National Park and at lay-bys on the various main roads within the district.

Arrangements were made to purchase fifty litter bins of a new and attractive design manufactured locally to meet the specific requirements of the Department and by the end of the year many had been placed in position. They had been allocated to permanent sites, supplementing the smaller concrete and metal drum types.

Most of the metal drum containers, which are mainly used in the remote areas, were brought back to the depot for the winter for overhauling and re-painting where necessary. These containers may not be as attractive as the receptacles recently purchased, but they have proved to be cheap, convenient and long lasting and it is suggested that they fulfil a useful purpose for some time to come.

DISPOSAL

The tips at Claypit Coverts, Fremington and Berry Down, Berrynarbor continued in use throughout the year.

It was seen that the main site at Fromington could probably be used for another year, but it was obvious that alternative disposal sites would have to be found before very long.

The Berry Down site has been in use for many years and it should be possible to continue using it for several years ahead. Because the area is at the head of a deep valley which follows an appreciable gradient, it is not possible to apply the recognised methods of refuse disposal and this presents a continual problem in relation to access of vehicles to the tip face and the covering of refuse.

The Lyn Down tip, owned by the Lynton Urban District Council, is used to dispose of refuse collected from the north-east corner of the district and an appropriate payment is made to that authority.

The machine used for tip control is a 1962 Fordson Major four-wheel drive tractor equipped with a bucket. It is not regarded as being sufficiently robust, nor powerful enough, to cope satisfactorily with the work required of it and frequent punctures have caused considerable waste of time. It has the advantage, however, of travelling under its own power between the two tips.

I gave the problem of punctures my immediate attention and obtained details of suitable tyre protectors. A pair of these were fitted into the tyres of the front wheels and by the end of the year the incidence of punctures had dropped, from an average of about one a day, to one a week.

Also in existence, but not in working order, was a 1958 Bristol 25 tractor. This was a tracked vehicle, equipped with a blade and bucket, which was in need of extensive repair. An estimate for the work required had been obtained and amounted to over £500, not including an engine overhaul.

Early in the year the question of the replacement of the tractor had been considered, but the matter had been deferred.

GENERAL

Within a week of commencing duties with this Authority in September, on my fourth day in fact, a Public Cleansing Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government made a visit to obtain information regarding the public cleansing services being operated.

He was supplied with details of the various aspects of the services and inspected the depot and refuse tips, together with vehicles and equipment for disposal.

The subsequent report on the visit from the Ministry was received later in December.

It is fair comment that many of the points mentioned regarding a review of the services, standardisation of vehicles, methods of collection, refuse storage receptacles and the advantages of maintaining vehicles by direct labour were a reflection of my personal views and thoughts for the future.

With almost twenty vehicles being operated by the Council a workshop with a good mechanic should be a sound investment. The initial outlay on equipment should be capable of being recovered within a reasonable period and subsequent savings shown in costs and time as well as in increased mechanical efficiency of equipment.

The Inspector was not impressed with the standards of control at either of the refuse tips and, whilst appreciating the difficulties at Berry Down, he considered there should be no difficulty in complying with recommended methods at Fremington, but added that suitable disposal equipment should be acquired.

It must be admitted that when he examined the Fremington tip it was badly in need of attention with large areas of uncovered refuse having received very limited supervision since the resignation of Mr Dennis.

Within a short time the methods of tipping refuse at this site were altered and conditions improved considerably. Large numbers of flies had been in evidence, but the resultant smaller areas of uncovered refuse, together with regular spraying, enabled a satisfactory measure of control to be effected.

Fire broke out on Berry Down tip in October and proved difficult to extinguish completely.

Consideration was given to the probable future requirements of vehicles and equipment. I was of the opinion that no new refuse collection vehicles should be acquired during 1966, but that during the year the matter should be further considered.

It was felt, however, that a replacement tracked vehicle was urgently required and it was decided to reconsider the matter at a meeting to be held in January, 1966

HOUSING

HOUSING SURVEY

During the year a detailed survey of 1,100 older properties in the more densely populated areas of the district was instituted and undertaken by temporary staff employed for the purpose.

This involved houses in the parishes of Ashford, Atherington, Berrynarbor, Bishops Tawton, Braunton, Combe Martin, Fremington, Georgeham, Heanton Punchardon, Horwood, Instow, Landkey, Marwood, Newton Tracy, Tawstock and Westleigh.

The inspections were carried out to enable a realistic assessment to be made of the number of houses that would be likely to be dealt with as being unfit for human habitation during the next five years.

Although only the main centres of population were included in the survey the results showed that relatively few houses had any serious defects. The final figures were between forty and fifty, or approximately 4% of the eleven hundred houses inspected.

It will be appreciated that the rate of progress achieved in dealing with unfit houses must be governed by the availability of suitable alternative accommodation for those persons who will be displaced.

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

Houses Demolished

Under Section 16 or 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	7
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Unfit Houses Closed

Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961	2
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Persons Displaced

From houses to be closed	17
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Families Displaced

From houses to be closed	4
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Unfit Houses Made Fit

After informal action	1
After formal notice under Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act, 1957					3
After determination of Demolition Order under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	1
After determination of Closing Order under Section 27 Housing Act, 1961	...	...	...	...	1

Houses in which Defects were Remedied

After formal notice under Public Health Acts	1
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CARAVAN SITES

The inspection of holiday caravan sites throughout the area during the summer season to ensure that the various conditions of the site licences were being observed occupied a considerable proportion of the public health inspectors' time.

In addition, details were recorded of the actual number of caravans on each site at frequent intervals during the months of June, July and August. This information was obtained for the Devon County Council and the particulars were passed to the County Planning Officer for use in connection with his annual survey of caravanning and holiday trends and development in Devon.

LICENSED SITES

Details are shown of the main caravan sites for which site licences under the Caravan Site and Control of Development Act, 1960 have been granted. The majority are holiday caravan sites where caravans are permitted to be used for human habitation only during the period from March to October in each year, and touring caravans are not allowed to remain on the sites for periods longer than three weeks. There are, of course, no such restrictions for residential sites.

PARISH		CARAVANS		
		Total	Touring	Residential
ASHFORD	Midland Caravan Park	63	-	-
BERRYNARBOR	Berrynarbor Trailer Park	50	-	6
	Indicknowle Farm	5	-	-
	Sandaway Caravan Park	90	-	-
	Watermouth Caves	61	-	-
BRAUNTON	Dune View Caravan Park	56	-	34
	Lobb Field	50	50	-
	Score Farm	22	-	22
COMBE MARTIN	Glonaven Holiday Park	100	-	-
FREMINGTON	Bickington Caravan Site	35	-	35
	Lagoon View, Yelland	200	-	5
GEORGEHAM	Barn Lawn	2	-	1
	Burrows Mead Caravan Park, Croyde	150	-	-
	Down End Caravan Park, Croyde	30	-	6
	Putsborough Sands	20	-	-
	Rude Caravan Park, Croyde	280	-	1
	Seabirds Park, Croyde	6	-	-
GOODLEIGH	Riversmead, Snapper	20	20	-
HEANTON	Chivenor Cross	25	25	-
PUNCHARDON				
KENTISBURY	Kentisbury Grange	61	-	-
LANDKEY	Mount View	24	-	24
MORTEHOE	Cleavewood Caravan Park	60	-	-
	Fortescue	21	6	1
	North Morte Farm	73	-	-
	Pine Cones Caravan Park	50	-	-
	Twitchen House	275	-	-
	Woolacombe Sands Caravan Park	70	-	-
	Woolacombe Bay Caravan Park	245	-	-
PARBACOMBE	Lorna Doone Farm	20	20	-

Various other sites have been granted licences, mostly for one caravan only and none for more than three caravans. These sites are distributed in the following parishes:-

PARISH	SITE	USE	PARISH	SITE	USE
Atherington	1	Holiday	High Bray	1	Residential
Bratton Fleming	1	Agriculture	Kentisbury	1	Holiday
Combe Martin	4	3 Residential & 1 Holiday	Landkey	1	Residential
Fremington	1	Residential & Touring	Loxhore	1	Residential
Goodleigh	1	Residential	Mortehoe	5	4 Holiday & 1 Agriculture
Heanton Punchardon	1	Residential	Shirwell	1	Residential

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MEAT INSPECTION

The all important, but time consuming duty of detailed inspections of all carcasses and offals of animals killed for human consumption in the four slaughterhouses within the district continued to expand as the number of animals killed increased, particularly at the largest establishment.

Extensions were completed to this modern slaughterhouse at Fremington which involved an addition to the cooling hall which doubled the hanging space for carcasses and additional lairage for live animals which more than doubled that accommodation. The proprietor indicated that he intended to substantially increase the throughput.

The other major slaughterhouse within the Council's district continued to function, but the structure of the buildings is such that they cannot easily be adapted to the present usage and required standards of hygiene. It is emphasised that the unsatisfactory features are due almost entirely to inherent factors which can only really be satisfactorily overcome with a completely new building.

During 1965 the proprietors attempted to obtain permission for the construction of a new slaughterhouse on an alternative site, but they were not successful.

The other two slaughterhouses at Braunton and Swimbridge remained in use and presented no problems as they are satisfactory. Both are used in connection with the respective proprietor's butchery business.

The two major slaughterhouses cater largely for the London markets and therefore operate on Saturdays and Sundays, which necessitates attendance by inspection staff on those days. During the week, however, it is usually possible to carry out all meat inspections within normal hours.

To cope with the task of inspection, the services of a firm of local veterinary surgeons have been utilised in varying degrees throughout the year.

Following the reduction in the establishment of additional public health inspectors from three to two because of a resignation at the end of 1964, the veterinary surgeons were employed by the Council on a regular basis.

During January and February, the duties at the two major slaughterhouses were shared with the two public health inspectors, but because of the neglect of general public health work occasioned by this arrangement, it became necessary for the veterinary surgeons to take over all inspection at the major slaughterhouses from March. The public health inspectors still assisted with certain week-end inspection duties and continued to carry out all meat inspection at the other slaughterhouses.

A meat inspector was eventually appointed and commenced duties in July, but because of a three months notice clause in the agreement with the veterinary surgeons, he was only able to carry out meat inspection at the two smaller slaughterhouses until October, when the duties at the two major establishments were once again shared between the veterinary surgeons and the meat inspector.

A comparison of the numbers of animals killed during 1964 and 1965 showed that the greatest increase was in the number of sheep and lambs killed, with nearly half as many again being dealt with at slaughterhouses; the number of pigs increased by a third and cattle and calves by almost a quarter.

	1964	1965
Beasts	2015	2418
Calves	1376	1777
Pigs	10190	13921
Sheep	86605	119321
	100186	137437

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding cows:	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep
Number of Animals killed	2075	343	1777	13921	119321
Number of carcasses examined	2075	343	1777	13921	119321
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	13	19	16	307
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	266	51	7	793	6216
Percentage of number inspec- ted affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:	13.06	14.66	1.46	5.81	5.47
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned:	-	1	-	133	-
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis:	-	0.29	-	0.96	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned:	7	1	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	7	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

FOOD PREMISES

Routine inspections of all types of premises associated with food trades were carried out whenever possible during the year. Particular attention was paid to catering establishments in the holiday areas of the district.

The following list details the types of food premises within the district classified in accordance with the principal business of the various traders:-

Baker and Confectioners	...	...	...	8
Butchers	...	...	...	17
Cafes and Canteens	...	...	...	54
Confectioners and Ice Cream Retailers	...	...	...	33
Fishmongers and Fish Friers	...	...	...	7
Greengrocers	...	...	...	10
Grocers	...	...	...	102
Hotels	...	...	...	34
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	49
				314

ICE CREAM

Fifteen samples of loose ice-cream from bulk containers at various retailers premises were obtained during the summer season for bacteriological examination and submitted to the Methylene Blue reduction test with the following results:-

Producer	Provisional Grade				Total
	1	2	3	4	
A	4	-	-	3	7
B	4	-	-	1	5
C	1	1	1	-	3
Totals	9	1	1	4	15

The majority of samples from any one producer should fall into Grade 1 or 2.

In the case of each of the five unsatisfactory results advice was given on the cleansing and sterilisation of serving equipment and repeat samples proved to be satisfactory.

OFFICES AND SHOPS

This is the first complete year for which legislation governing the health, safety and welfare of office and shop workers has been in force.

Local authorities were presented with the formidable task of detailed inspections of premises to check on such items as cleanliness, overcrowding, temperatures, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, clothing accommodation, sitting facilities, eating facilities, floors, passages and stairs and first aid equipment.

With the intention of assisting with the establishment of an initial register of premises and enabling the size of the problem to be assessed before the beginning of the enforcement of the main requirements of the legislation all employers were required to notify the Council of the numbers of persons employed in offices and shops by 31st July 1964.

In September 1965 it was obvious that many employers had not carried out this duty and in addition to the 120 or so premises registered, it was estimated that there were probably another 70 that should be included. A number of likely defaulters were visited and by the end of the year further premises had been registered.

There would appear to have been somewhat checkered progress on the initial inspections during the year occasioned by other matters such as the priorities of meat inspection and surveying work, the subsequent separation of the Surveyors and Public Health Departments, the appointment of Chief Public Health Inspector, the resignation of an Additional Public Health Inspector and last, but not least, the holiday season when it is considered that this type of inspection would be an unreasonable interruption of business activities.

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises:	Premises registered during the year	Total number of registered Premises:	General inspection during the year:
Offices ...	5	42	2
Retail shops ...	22	73	14
Wholesale shops & Warehouses	1	3	1
Catering establishments	2	26	2
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	-
Totals ...	30	145	19

FACTORIES

The following premises in the district are registered as being factories.

Factories with mechanical power	...	46
Factories without mechanical power	...	9

OUTWORKERS

Notifications have been received of seven persons within this district who undertake work in their homes in connection with the making of wearing apparel.

RODENT CONTROL

The service continued on the basis whereby the rodent co-operative acted mainly in an advisory capacity, carrying out treatments only on the local authority's own premises. Occupiers of other premises were referred to private firms carrying out rodent control work in the area.

All the sewage disposal works and refuse tips were visited regularly and treatments carried out whenever necessary.

In addition, the district received a general survey with particular attention being paid to known sources of infestation and previously infested properties.

Details of work undertaken were as shown:-

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural	Total
No of properties inspected					
(a) after notification	-	24	36	12	72
(b) on survey	2	200	320	180	702
No of properties found to be infested by:					
Rats	2	52	92	170	316
Mice	-	6	11	12	29
Total inspections	36	248	390	312	986

WASTE FOOD PLANTS

The duties of licensing and supervising plants and equipment used for the boiling of waste foods for animal feeding are carried out under delegated powers from the Devon County Council.

At the end of the year there were twelve premises in use which had been each inspected on at least two occasions.

BOARDING KENNELS

Two premises within the district are licensed and required to be inspected to ensure that they are suitable for boarding animals.

Both were inspected during the year and conditions were regarded as satisfactory.

PETROLEUM

Eighty eight licences were granted to keep petroleum spirit at various premises throughout the district.

The quantities of petroleum stored ranged from 200 gallons to 1,500,000 gallons.

The licences issued permitted the storage of a total of 1,725,250 gallons.

EXPLOSIVES

Thirty eight licences to keep gunpowder and mixed explosives were issued in respect of various premises within the district.

These were mainly for the storage of fireworks.

PLEASURE BOATS

The Licensing of boat proprietors and boatmen and the inspection of boats plying for hire, chiefly from the beaches at Combe Martin and Instow, was carried out in connection with twenty four vessels.

Inspections were made regularly during the season to ensure that the conditions of licences were being observed, particularly regarding the likelihood of boats carrying more passengers than permitted by their respective licences.

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

The following is a summary of the main inspections and visits made by members of the staff of the Public Health Department during 1965.

Visits can vary in duration from minutes to hours, but by grouping them under the more important headings, a useful guide is given of the proportion of time spent on the multifarious activities of the Department.

Water supplies - Public ...	...	...	...	5
- Private	...	...	...	81
Swimming pools	...	...	...	7
Drainage	...	...	...	556
Piggeries	...	...	...	22
River pollution	...	...	...	9
Shellfish	...	...	...	7
Caravans	...	...	...	336
Camping	...	...	...	62
Public conveniences	...	...	...	42
Refuse collection	...	...	...	100
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	97
Litter	...	...	...	68
Rodent control	...	...	...	986
Smoke	...	...	...	1
Dust	...	...	...	12
Nuisances	...	...	...	54
Offensive trades	...	...	...	2
Noise	...	...	...	22
Housing - Public Health Act	...	...	...	37
- Housing Act	...	...	...	123
Verminous premises	...	...	...	9

Animals	...	...	...	...	...	4
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	47
Nest inspection	...	...	...	...	...	638
Food inspection	...	...	...	...	...	32
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	21
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	2
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	71
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	49
Cafes and hotels	...	...	...	...	...	48
School kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	4
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	15
Mobile shops	...	...	...	...	...	6
Offices and shops	...	...	...	...	...	67
Waste Foods Order	...	...	...	...	...	60
Scrap metal dealers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Animal boarding establishments	6
Petroleum	98
Pleasure Boats	28
Betting, Gaming and Lotteries	14

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